

July

Cooking Wild Mushrooms in Summer

Sunday, July 10, 1-3pm

Be sure to save room for mushrooms! Join Naturalist and wild food enthusiast Alex Holmes for an introduction to edible summer mushrooms and how to prepare them. **Registration is required.**

Sunup Hikes

July 8 and 22, 6:30am

It's summer in southern Illinois and even though it's hot and humid, that's no reason to stop hiking! Roll out of bed and join the Park Naturalist as we get some exercise and take in the early morning woods on one of the 8 park trails. Trails will vary from 1-3 miles and will be moderately difficult with some steep stair climbing. **Registration is required.**

Rare Plants and Common Lookalikes

Sunday, July 24, 2-3pm

There are over 400 species of rare plants known from Illinois, but many of them look similar to more common species. This presentation will discuss the identification of rare plants and explain how to differentiate them from their related counterparts. **Registration is required.**

August

Conundrum of Common Names

Saturday, August 13, 10-11am

Learn about the trouble with using common names for plants instead of their Latin name. Join Erin Garrett with U of I Extension and explore some commonly used names that refer to multiple species and dive into the use of the word "weed." **Registration is required.**

Art in the Park

Saturday, August 20, 1-3pm

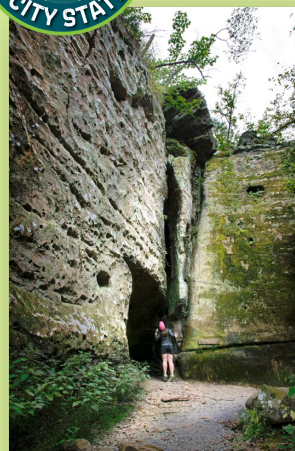
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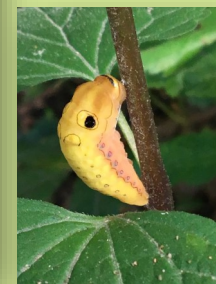
Giant City State Park



May-August 2022 Programs



Giant City State Park
235 Giant City Road
Makanda, IL 62958
618-457-4836



www.facebook.com/friendsofgiantcity

<https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/Parks/Pages/GiantCity.aspx>



May

Night Sky Viewing with the Astronomical Association of Southern Illinois

Friday, May 6, 7:30-9pm

Giant City State Park is a great place to do a little night sky viewing and what better people to view the sky with than the Astronomical Association of southern Illinois! Join the Park Naturalist as we take a very short evening hike to the viewing field where AASI will have telescopes set up to enjoy the beautiful night sky and all that it has to offer! This program is weather dependent. **Registration is required.**

Caterpillar Identification and Collection

Saturday, May 7, 10-Noon

Caterpillars are all around us-and establishing a healthy ecosystem for them is vital if we want to support local populations of butterflies and moths. Join Erin Garrett with U of I Extension to learn identification characteristics for common caterpillars, explore the best host plants for them, and see how you can contribute to caterpillar citizen science. Then, build your own caterpillar collection device and join us on a short hike to practice collecting and identifying caterpillars. **Registration is required.**

Friends of Giant City Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 15th, 1-3pm

Would you like to learn more about the Friends of Giant City? If so, why not join us for the annual meeting. Meet Friends members and enjoy refreshments and a special guest presenter. Anyone interested in learning more about the Friends group or the park is encouraged to attend. **Registration is required.**

Art in the Park

Saturday, May 28, 1-3pm

What better setting than outdoors at Giant City State Park to get creative and learn how to watercolor paint! Join local artist, Anne Krippenstapel, for a leisurely afternoon of creating art inspired by nature. This is a free program and all supplies will be provided. **Registration is required.**

June

Which Grass is Which?

Thursday, June 2, 10am-Noon

While identifying grasses can be tricky, it doesn't always have to be. Join Erin Garrett with U of I Extension and learn the basics of grass identification and how to identify common grasses on your next hike, without learning complex terminology or needing a hand lens. **Registration is required.**

June cont.

Caminata Guiada en Español e Inglés Guided Hike in Spanish and English

Saturday, June 4th, 10-11:30am

Do you speak Spanish and like to hike? If so, this guided trail walk is for you! Do you like to hike but do not speak Spanish? This hike is also for you! Join the Park Naturalist and Lisa Thomas, local volunteer, as we take a casual hike along the moderate 1 mile Giant City Nature Trail. We will highlight a little of the flora, fauna, geology and history of Giant City State Park. **Registration begins on May 1st.**

¿Hablas español y te gusta pasear por la naturaleza? Si contestas "sí", ¡esta caminata guiada es para ti! ¿Te gusta pasear por la naturaleza, pero no hablas español? Pues, ¡esta caminata es para ti también! Acompáñanos a la naturalista del parque y Lisa Thomas (voluntaria local) mientras damos un paseo moderado y casual de una milla por el sendero natural "Giant City". Destacaremos un poco de la flora, fauna, geología e historia del parque estatal Giant City. Se puede inscribir a partir del sábado, 1 de mayo.

Ann Stokes Living History Program

Sunday, June 5, 1-2pm

Join Marlene Rivero, local first-person heritage interpreter and storyteller, as she reenacts the life of "Ann Bradford Stokes: African American Civil War Nurse." Stokes worked aboard the Navy's first Hospital Ship, Red Rover, of Mound City, IL, treating sick and wounded soldiers aboard the United States Naval (U.S.N.) Hospital Ship. **Registration required.**

National Get Outdoors Day Event

Saturday, June 11, 1-4pm

Southern Illinois is a playground for the outdoor enthusiast. Hiking, biking, camping, birdwatching, mushroom foraging, climbing, kayaking.....we've got it all! On June 12th from 1-4pm, join local nature enthusiasts and professionals to discover cool outdoor opportunities in your backyard! **No registration required.** Please call the Giant City Visitors Center for more information, 618-457-4836

Mammoth Days and Mastodon Nights

Saturday, June 25, 10am-Noon

The Ice Age breathed down Giant City State Park's neck and its hills lived to tell about it! Take a portal back to the Pleistocene era through hands on "mammoth tracking" activities (ancestral skills: atlatl, bull roarers, throwing sticks and more). Take a glimpse of southern Illinois' 13,000 year old chilly past with local Interpreter, Steve Gariepy. **Registration is required.**

